COMIC SHOP NEWS™

Uncanny Offering from Diggle & Dynamite

Dynamite Entertainment launched their new Crime Line earlier this year with *Garth Ennis'* ***Red Team,*** a hard-edged crime drama. For their next series, they've recruited another A-list writer—but this time, they're going in a very different direction.

Uncanny, created and written by *Andy Diggle,* is described by the author as "a crime thriller with just a slight paranormal twist. Weaver is a professional grifter and thief-for-hire, with an uncanny ability to steal other people's skills, awareness and expertise for a short period of time. So he can instantly acquire the ability to, say, crack a safe, or bypass airport security. But there's always a ticking clock. He only has a limited window to execute the mission before the stolen ability fades. It's cool, and it opens up all kinds of dramatic possibilities."

Why would Weaver choose to use his powers for criminal purposes? Wouldn't the ability to steal other people's skills allow him to make a fortune in a number of *legal* ways? "Why does anyone privileged turn to crime?" Diggle asked rhetorically. "Weaver's all about short cuts, the short term. He lives in the moment, doesn't like to plan too far ahead. He lives a completely disposable lifestyle—sleeping in luxury hotels, dining out every night—and when the money runs out, he just leaves it all behind and starts looking for the next score. He's a shark; he has to keep swimming. Always moving forward. But of course, that's kind of a soulless existence. There's no foundation under him. There's something vital missing from his life."

How important are Weaver's abilities to the storyline? "They're central, although Weaver doesn't know it yet," Diggle replied. "He thinks he's unique. But the origin of his powers, and the implications for the wider world, will form the landscape of the series."

Note that Diggle said, "he *thinks* he's unique." Does that mean that there are others with similar skills? "Obviously, I don't want to spoil it," Diggle said, "but let's just say that the title ***Uncanny*** doesn't refer to Weaver alone."

The concept of a man gifted with the ability to steal other people's skills for a short time could be the basis for a science fiction series or an adventure saga; what led Diggle to use it as the foundation for a crime drama? "I like to tell grounded, edgy, fast-paced stories that are just one step removed from reality," Diggle said. "It lets you push it just that little bit further, and opens up all kinds of story possibilities that readers hopefully won't see coming.

While Diggle acknowledges that his series will have noir overtones, he stresses that "there's a lot more to crime than just noir. What I'm doing here incorporates some of the conventions of noir—the cynical worldview, the anti-hero, powers ranged against him in an urban maze. But anyone who's familiar with my work knows I also love a good heist caper, and there'll be elements of that in here too. Plus some slightly more fantastic elements from outside the crime genre altogether—just enough to spice things up without overpowering the mix. It's a pretty cool combination."

What led Diggle to make his Dynamite Entertainment Premiere with ***Uncanny?*** "Actually, they invited me to be a part of their new Crime Line," Diggle said. "I jumped at the chance. I love the genre, and the opportunity to create something completely new was very appealing."

"Andy Diggle is one of the most incredible writers in comics today," Dynamite President/CEO *Nick Barrucci* said. "As a fan, I find each series that he writes more engaging than the previous one. I enjoyed his ***Hellblazer*** run, but when I read his ***Green Arrow: Year One*** and ***The Losers***, I wanted to read even more of Andy's work, so I sought out his earlier comic series to read. And I'm glad I did! Having now read much of his body of work, my respect for his work and skill as a writer has grown even more!

"I'm excited that, after several years of exclusivity with DC and Marvel, Andy will be working with Dynamite on a series and a genre that he loves. ***Uncanny*** is going to blow everyone's minds."

First Ennis, now Diggle: that's a top-tier talent list! How did Barrucci convince them to join Dynamite for the Crime Line launch? "We've wanted to launch a crime imprint for a while," Barrucci said. "Crime is one of the greatest genres inside and outside of comics. We had been speaking with some creators about titles in the crime genre, and one night over dinner, Garth mentioned that he had an idea for a crime book.

"At the same time, one of the first creators we reached out to was *Andy Diggle* about working on a crime book. The stars had aligned, so it became quickly evident that this was the time to launch the Dynamite crime line."

Does Diggle have other crime projects in the works? "As a matter of fact, there's another new crime book we're developing at Dynamite,"Diggle said. "Too early to announce just yet, but it's going to be very cool. Meanwhile, I'm also writing the long-awaited Venice heist caper arc of ***Thief of Thieves*** with *Robert Kirkman* at Skybound, which is a ton of fun, and my creator-owned crime thriller ***Snapshot*** is out now from Image Comics."

Diggle is convinced that this is a great time for crime comics. "Crime comics are on a roll right now. The crime genre is hugely popular in other media, so why not comics too? I'm a great believer in writing comics for the man and woman on the street. And I include myself in that! I'm trying to write the kind of comics I want to read myself."

Diggle is joined on ***Uncanny*** by artist *Aaron Campbell,* whose works has recently been seen in Dynamite's ***The Shadow.*** "We suggested Aaron to Andy," Barrucci explained. "There were quite a few artists we looked at—both that Andy suggested and that we suggested—but when it came down to it, Aaron had the best feel as well as the style that would fit the noir approach we were going for. Aaron has proven how great an artist he is with ***The Shadow***. We were ecstatic that he was the right fit for the project."

Is ***Uncanny*** a limited series, a long-form maxi-series, or an open-ended ongoing tale? "It's designed to be open-ended," Diggle said. "The first six-issue arc opens up a whole new world for Weaver, and the repercussions will take up the rest of his life… however long that is!"

Don't look for ***Uncanny*** to co-exist in the same world as Ennis's ***Red Team*** or other Dynamite Crime Line titles. "I'd like to keep this fairly self-contained," Diggle said. "One of the things that appeals to me about the project is the opportunity to create a self-contained world, one that doesn't require crossovers and ongoing continuity with other books. Shared universes like Marvel and DC are a lot of fun, but with this I'm enjoying playing in my own sandbox."

As for other books in the Crime Line—well, *Nick Barrucci* isn't ready to drop names quite yet, but he did say that, "much like Andy and a few other writers we've announced lately on other projects, the writers for the Crime Line will be writers we haven't worked with—and fans will be *really* excited!"

Uncanny #1, a $3.99 comic by *Andy Diggle & Aaron Campbell,* is scheduled for June 26th release. The first issue will feature covers by *Jock* and *Sean Phillips,* as well as an exclusive subscription variant cover by *Dan Panosian.*

by Cliff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by *Comic Shop News* in cooperation with *newsarama.com*

Ultron's Angelic Ending

Marvel promised that ***Age of Ultron #10*** would deliver major surprises... and one of them is so very big and unexpected that Marvel just couldn't keep it a secret any longer!

Angela, the character created by *Neil Gaiman & Todd McFarlane* in ***Spawn #9*** (and who has subsequently become Gaiman's property as the result of a legal settlement between the two creators), will play a role in the final issue of ***Age of Ultron***—presumably in the segment that has already been announced as featuring art by *Joe Quesada.*

In announcing Angela's Marvel premiere, Marvel editor in chief *Axel Alonso* said that the revelation wasn't really a spoiler—and he should know better than anyone else. Instead, he told the ***New York Times*** that her presence would be a bonus, "like the post-credit scenes in one of our Marvel studio movies." Alonso also said that the appearance of Angela was "a byproduct of the climax to the story ***[Age of Ultron].*** It is *not* the climax to the story."

So what's the next stop for Angela? Surprisingly, she'll show up post-***AU*** in ***Guardians of the Galaxy #5,*** which will be co-written by regular series writer *Brian Bendis* along with *Neil Gaiman.* No word as to how an angelic character like Angela fits in with the science-fictional ***Guardians of the Galaxy,*** but if anyone can make the two concepts work together, the imaginative team of Bendis and Gaiman can!

With Gaiman already working on a ***Sandman*** project for Vertigo and now on Angela for Marvel, could 2013 be the year of a Gaiman trifecta? Will we at long last see his ***Miracleman/Marvelman*** return at Marvel? Marvel won't confirm, but when asked if we were closer to actually seeing Marvelman show up in the Marvel Universe, Marvel Editor-in-Chief *Axel Alonso* told **comibookresources.com** that "we are, but I can't say more."

CSNsider

•*Holy Flashback, Batman!* DC has announced a new ***Batman '66*** series inspired by the fondly remembered *Bill Dozier* television series that starred *Adam West & Burt Ward,* along with a legion of top-tier guest stars (including *Frank Gorshin, Burgess Meredith, Julie Newmar,* and *Cesar Romero)* in villainous roles. The series will be written by *Jeff Parker;* the first issue will be illustrated by *Jonathan Case,* with covers by *Mike Allred.* "DC Entertainment is the most prolific producer of digital first comics and, as we work to create new and compelling content, this is a great way to also preserve the legacy of our characters," DC Entertainment President *Diane Nelson* said. "It's exciting to roll out the new ***Batman '66*** comic as part of this bigger initiative with our Warner Bros Consumer Product partners."

"This TV series introduced a whole new generation to ***Batman,*** and I am so proud to have been a part of that phenomenon," *Adam West* said. "Events like this remind us all of the legacy of the show and its staying power for generations to come..."

•*Joshua Hale Fialkov,* previously announced as writer of both ***Green Lantern Corps*** and ***Red Lanterns,*** has left both titles before any issues were completed. ""There were editorial decisions about the direction of the book that conflicted with the story I was hired to tell," Fialkov said on his blog, "and I felt that it was better to let DC tell their story the way they want."

Replacing Fialkov is *Van Jensen* (with co-plotting by *Robert Venditti)* on ***Green Lantern Corps*** and *Charles Soule* (already tapped to take over ***Swamp Thing***) on ***Red Lanterns.*** There were rumors that the story in question involved the death of John Stewart; however, Venditti said, "Here's the truth: Van and I have never even contemplated killing John Stewart. We have plenty of plans for John. Plans that probably wouldn't work as well if he was, you know,

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SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER

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dead." To which *Alex Segura*, DC's Executive Director of Publicity, said, "John is not going anywhere." (So whether there were plans to kill John Stewart or not, it's most definitely off the table now!)

•Another creative change at DC: *Andy Diggle*, whose run on ***Action Comics*** was supposed to start in #18 but was delayed a month when *Grant Morrison's* final story arc ran long, has announced that he is leaving the book prior to the release of his first issue. "Sadly, I've decided to walk away from ***Action Comics*** for professional reasons," he said on Twitter. "It was the toughest decision I've ever had to make, especially with Superman's 75th anniversary and Man of Steel on the horizon. But it was the right decision. No regrets. Onwards!

"Sincere thanks to *Matt Idelson* for inviting me to follow *Grant Morrison* on ***Action Comics***. I hope we still get to work together someday... I wish nothing but the best of luck to whichever new creative team picks up the red boots and cape." It appears that only one issue by Diggle will see print; after that, *Tony Daniel*, who was partnering with Diggle on ***Action***, will both write and illustrate the final part of the story arc. "For the remainder of the arc I'll be working off his plots to finish out this first arc," Daniel said. "So essentially, I become 'scripter' in the credits with Andy as 'plotter.'"

Don't get too accustomed to seeing Daniel's name on the ***Action*** credits, though. "As for myself, I end my short run after I complete the first arc, which ends with 21," Daniel said. "This was pre-planned since last fall, as there is another project I'll be taking on and assisting with—a massive project with DC. I still think people will like this arc and I'm staying as true as I can to Andy's plans for this story. In the end I hope he'll find it somewhat recognizeable as something he took part in."

•It's the news that Valiant fans have hoped for: ***Quantum & Woody*** are coming back in July! Valiant has released a simple teaser tagged with the statement "The World's Greatest Comic Book Company Presents... The World's Worst Superhero Team. July." *CSN* has told you in the past that the return of ***Quantum & Woody*** was in the works, but we can update that with some teaser art and a creative team. James Asmus, playwright and writer for Marvel's ***Dark X-Men***, ***The Runaways***, and ***Gambit*** will be scripting with Tom Fowler, whose work includes ***Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight***, and ***Venom*** handling the art honors. *CSN* will have more art and information of the return of these fan-favorite characters in the next few weeks.

•Marvel has generated lots of excitement with their Marvel Now! rollout, but they're not ready to rest on their laurels. Marvel EiC *Axel Alonso* also told **comicbookresources.com** that readers can look forward to "Marvel Now! Wave 2—a new wave of titles that will generate the same amount of excitement amongst retailers and fans that the first wave did... Look for exciting new series, starting in July and carrying through next year."

Alonso also said that "we'll be making an announcement soon about three intriguing limited series, featuring eyebrow-raising talent, that fall under the creative umbrella of a much-loved sub-brand. I'm not at liberty to say much more."

And if that's not enough to pique your interest, Alonso also said that Marvel is bringing back ***What If?*** "...If you've ever wondered what might have happened if the Phoenix Force had found a different host than Cyclops, Emma Frost, Namor, and Colossus in last year's biggest super hero event, then you'll want to read ***What If? Avengers Vs. X-Men***, a 4-issue limited series written by *Jimmy Palmiotti* and illustrated by *Jorge Molina* that ships weekly this July..."

Coming Comics—Marvel in June

To save the planet Earth – and maybe the entire galaxy! – the heroes of the Marvel Universe made the most controversial decision of their lives. The results have brought disaster the likes of which they have never seen before. And now, with one final chance, they try to make it right in in ***Age of Ultron #9*** by *Brian Bendis, Brandon Peterson, & Carlos Pacheco.* Their actions lead to one of the most surprising endings in Marvel history in ***Age of Ultron #10***—and *Joe Quesada* himself is joining the team to illustrate the final pages of this landmark issue—final pages that are so secret that Marvel is polybagging every copy to ensure that no one peeks!

What does A.I. stand for? We'll find out for sure when *Mark Waid & Andre Araujo* deliver ***Age of Ultron #10A.I.***, which spotlights Hank Pym. Faced with a dilemma only he can solve, Pym gambles his past and his future! And by story's end, Hank Pym will have an entirely new role in the Marvel Universe!

The All-New X-Men find themselves face-to-face with the Uncanny Avengers in ***All-New X-Men #12*** by *Brian Bendis & Stuart Immonen.* And teen Cyclops meets the adult version of the little brother he thought he may never see again.

The High Evolutionary stakes his claim on the Children of the Sun in ***Avengers #13*** by *Jonathan Hickman, Nick Spencer, & Mike Deodato.* Meanwhile, Hyperion learns the true cost of the decisions he's made at the Origin Site in the Savage Land. And in ***Avengers #14***, Hickman & Spencer present the Prelude to Infinity. All of the Origin Sites go active as the Earth begins to communicate with something much more ancient than human civilizations.

The Punisher and Spider-Man have never seen eye to eye, but this is the Superior Spider-Man! What does Frank Castle think about Spider-Man's new, hard edged attitude? Find out in ***Avenging Spider-Man #22*** by *Christopher Yost & Marco Checchetto.*

The Uncanny Avengers guest-star in ***Cable & X-Force #9*** by *Dennis Hopeless & Salvador Larroca.* Hope goes on the run, determined to help Cable whether he wants it or not... but the Uncanny Avengers have been keeping tabs on Hope and they're not about to let her get tangled up with Cable's band of fugitives!

THE KINGPIN'S A CRIMINAL— BUT HE HAS BUSINESSES THAT OPERATE LEGALLY!
AND FUNNEL CASH TO HIM, HUH?
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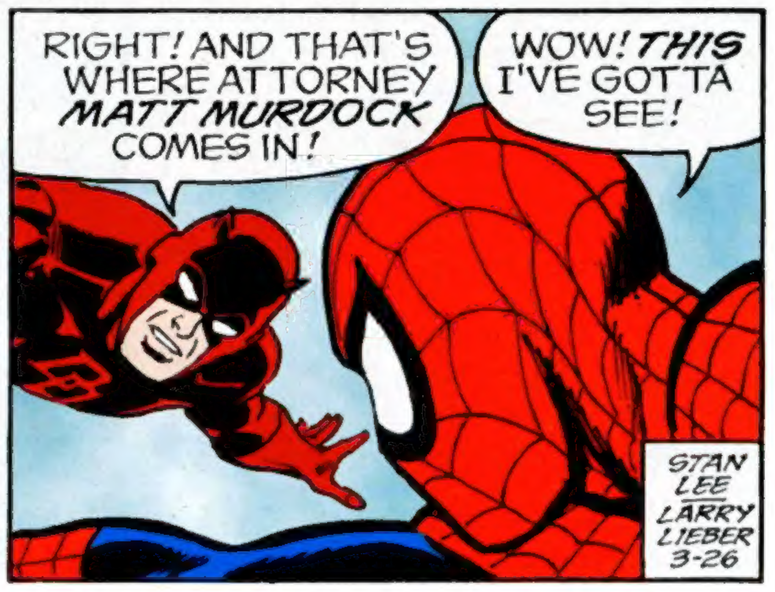

Steve Rogers has one chance to solve the Zola problem, and he goes for it in ***Captain America #8*** by *Rick Remender & John Romita Jr.* Broken, beaten and near dead he must defeat Zola or all is lost!

Lee Weeks is both writer and artist of the eight-part ***Daredevil: Dark Knights.*** It begins as a blizzard brings New York to a stand still -- and a young patient lies on death's door unless Daredevil can get to him in time!

Did a good-natured prank-gone-wrong mean Ben Grimm caused the accident that led Victor Von Doom down his wicked path? Find out in ***Fantastic Four #9*** by *Matt Fraction & Mark Bagley.*

Unable to go to his agents at MI13 for help, Pete Wisdom calls in his favor and tasks Gambit with recovering a stolen enchanted artifact in ***Gambit #14*** by *James Asmus & Diogenes Neves.*

Sara Pichelli reunites with *Brian Bendis* in ***Guardians of the Galaxy #4,*** which focuses on Gamora, who has a deadly secret that could bring down the whole team.

Daredevil guest-stars in ***Indestructible Hulk #9*** by *Mark Waid & Matteo Scalera,* as we learn the secret of the friendship between Matt Murdock and Bruce Banner!

"The Secret Origin of Tony Stark" continues in ***Iron Man #11*** by *Kieron Gillen & Dale Eaglesham.*

Craig Kyle, Christopher Yost, & Scot Eaton present a tale that leads directly into the next ***Thor*** film in ***Marvel's Thor: The Dark World Prelude #1.*** What happened to your favorite Asgardians between the events of ***Thor*** and ***The Avengers***? Find out here!

Morbius heads to Horizon Labs in search of a cure for his vampirism... but isn't that the lab where the Superior Spider-Man hangs out? Yes indeed, as you'll find out in ***Morbius, The Living Vampire #6*** by *Joe Keatinge & Valentine Delandro.*

The cold war between Atlantis and Wakanda heats up in ***New Avengers #7*** by *Jonathan Hickman & Mike Deodato.* Who is the secret member of the Illuminati that many of the members do not know about?

Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness wrap up the origin arc in ***Nova #5,*** presenting an "Infinite-ly" dramatic turning point in the life as Nova discovers that something out in the galaxy is threatening everything he knows.

Betty needs to save the future, but the Man-Thing stands in her way in ***Red She-Hulk #66*** by *Jeff Parker, Carlo Pagulayan, & Wellinton Alves.*

Zeb Wells & Joe Madureira sign on for ***Savage Wolverine's*** second arc beginning in #6—an arc that features Wolverine, Elektra, and Spider-Man.

The Secret Avengers take on The New High Council of AIM in ***Secret Avengers #5*** by *Nick Spencer & Luke Ross...* and SHIELD will never be the same!

The Spider-Slayer is scheduled for execution in *Dan Slott & Giuseppe Camuncoli's* ***Superior Spider-Man #11,*** and Mayor J. Jonah Jameson is leaving nothing to chance. To ensure that everything goes according to plan, Jameson's called in the one man he can trust to oversee everything—the Superior Spider-Man. Then, in ***Superior Spider-Man #12,*** Spidey, Jonah, Glory, and Norah are trapped inside a non-functional Raft... trapped with almost all the villains that Superior Spider-Man has brutalized since ***Amazing Spider-Man #700.***

The Mad Titan flees his home in search of true love in ***Thanos Rising #3*** by *Jason Aaron & Simone Bianchi.* But how many lives will he have to take to find it?

Three Thors, side by side, united in battle! in ***Thor, God of Thunder #9*** by *Jason Aaron & Esad Ribic.* But will even that be enough, as Gorr the God Butcher's grand plan nears completion and his powers grow beyond anything we've seen before...?

Meet Ultimate Power Pack in ***Ultimate Spider-Man #24*** by *Brian Bendis & David Marquez,* the next chapter in "Spider-Man No More."

"Ultimates Disassembled" begins in ***Ultimate Comics Ultimates #25,*** courtesy of *Joshua Hale Fialkov & Carmine Di Giandomenico.* The search for the Infinity Gems brings disaster to the Triskellion's doorstep!

Wolverine discovers The Midnight City in *Rick Remender & Daniel Acuna's* ***Uncanny Avengers #9...*** and soon wishes he hadn't.

What does Fantomex want from Betsy? What does Betsy want from Cluster? What does Cluster want from Fantomex What does Bishop want from the 21st century? Find out in ***Uncanny X-Force #6*** by *Sam Humphries.*

Dormammu's machinations have pulled all of the Uncanny X-Men into the hellish dimension of Limbo ib *Brian Bendis & Frazer Irving's* ***Uncanny X-Men #7.*** Can Magik match the evil demon's lord's sorcery? Is she even on the X-Men's side anymore?

Wolverine finds himself trapped on a helicarrier in *Paul Cornell & Mirco Pierfederici's* ***Wolverine #5*** – and it's plunging into the depths of the Atlantic Ocean!

Welcome to the Hellfire Academy, there's little chance you'll survive the experience. In

AS AN ATTORNEY, I'M HELPING THE STATE CRACK DOWN ON KINGPIN'S PHONY BUSINESSES!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
3-27
SOUNDS GOOD, BUT IT'LL TAKE TOO LONG!
I WANNA BUST HIM THIS WEEK—AND RETURN TO NEW YORK!
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DO YOU KNOW WHERE KINGPIN'S HIDEOUT IS?
NOT A CLUE!
I'VE USED MY RADAR SENSE ALL OVER TOWN—
CAME UP WITH ZILCH!
YEAH, BUT NOW YOU'VE GOT SPIDER-MAN HELPING YOU!
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
3-28
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Wolverine & the X-Men #31, *Jason Aaron & Nick Bradshaw* present the most villainous school you've ever seen. With teachers like Mystique, Sauron, Mojo, Wendigo, and Master Pandemonium there's no limit to the terrible things you'll learn. Can Wolverine and the X-Men find the school before their kidnapped students are turned into villains?

The end of X-Factor begins in ***X-Factor #257,*** courtesy of *Peter David & Neil Edwards.* Does this six-parter really mark the end of the series?...

The school is on lockdown in ***X-Men #2*** by *Brian Wood & Olivier Coipel*... but if the bad guys can't get out, neither can the X-Men!

Marvel collected editions (advance solicited for July and August release) include:

- ***Amazing Spider-Man Omnibus Volume 1 HC,*** reissuing the long-unavailable collection of ***Amazing Fantasy #15, Amazing Spider-Man #s 1-38 & Annuals 1 & 2,*** and pages from ***Fantastic Four Annual #1*** and ***Strange Tales Annual #2.***
- ***Avengers Volume 2: The Last White Event Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Avengers (2013) #s 7-11.***
- ***Avengers Academy: Final Exams TP,*** collecting ***Avengers Academy #s 34-39.***
- ***Captain America by Ed Brubaker Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***Captain America (2011) #s 15-19.***
- ***Castle: A Calm Before Storm Premiere HC,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.
- ***Daredevil: End of Days HC,*** collecting the eight-part miniseries.
- ***Dark Avengers: Masters of Evil TP,*** collecting ***Dark Avengers (2012) #s 184-190.***
- ***Dark Tower: The Gunslinger—The Way Station TP,*** collecting the five-part miniseries.
- ***Deadpool by Daniel Way: The Complete Collection Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine Origins #s 2-25, Deadpool (2008) #s 1-12, Thunderbolts #s 130-131,*** and ***Deadpool Saga.***

- ***Essential Captain America Volume 7 TP,*** collecting ***Captain America #s 231-257.***
- ***FF Volume 1: Fantastic Faux TP,*** collecting ***FF (2012) #s 4-8.***
- ***Gambit Volume 2: Tombstone Blues TP,*** collecting ***Gambit #s 8-12*** and more.
- ***Hulk: From the Marvel UK Vaults TP,*** collecting 296 pages of tales from Marvel UK's weekly ***Hulk Comic.***
- ***Inhumans by Paul Jenkins & Jae Lee HC,*** collecting the twelve-part miniseries.
- ***Iron Man by Kurt Busiek & Sean Chen Omnibus HC,*** a 1000+ page compendium that includes ***Iron Man (1998) #s 1-25*** and much, *much* more.
- ***Marvel Masterworks The Avengers Volume 5 TP,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 41-50 & Annual #1.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks Daredevil Volume 7 HC,*** collecting ***Daredevil #s 64-74*** and ***Iron Man #s 35-36.***
- ***The Mighty Thor/ Journey Into Mystery: Everything Burns TP,*** collecting ***Mighty Thor #s 18-22*** and ***Journey Into Mystery #s 642-645.***
- ***New Avengers Volume 1: Everything Dies Premiere HC,*** collecting ***New Avengers (2013) #s 1-6.***

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- ***Superior Spider-Man Volume 1 HC,*** collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man #s 698-700*** and ***Superior Spider-Man #s 1-5***—and for those who didn't want to spring for the big bucks that the Ditko variant of ***ASM #700*** demanded, there'll be a Ditko variant cover of this hardcover at a much more normal price!
- ***Superior Spider-Man Team-Up: Superiority Complex TP,*** collecting ***Avenging Spider-Man #s 15.1 & 16-19.***
- ***Thor: Gods, Gladiators, & the Guardians of the Galaxy TP,*** collecting ***Thor #s 267-271 & Annual #s 5 & 6.***
- ***The Tower Chronicles: Geisthawk Premiere HC,*** collecting the *Matt Wagner-Simon Bisley* series originally published by Legendary.
- ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man by Brian Michael Bendis Volume 4 Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man #s 16.1 & 19-22.***
- ***Ultimate Comics Ultimates by Sam Humphries Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Ultimates #s 18.1 & 19-24.***
- ***Ultimate Comics Wolverine: Legacies TP,*** collecting ***Ultimate Comics Wolverine #s 1-4.***
- ***Uncanny X-Force Volume 1: Let It Bleed TP,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Force (2013) #s 1-5.***
- ***Uncanny X-Force Volume 7: Final Execution Book 2 TP,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Force (2010) #s 30-35*** and more.
- ***Uncanny X-Men Omnibus Volume 1 HC,*** reissuing the long-unavailable collection of ***Giant-Size X-Men #1, X-Men #s 94-131, & Annual #3.***
- ***Uncanny X-Men Volume 1: Revolution Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Men #s 1-5.***
- ***Wolverine by Larry Hama & Marc Silvestri Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine (1988) #s 31-37*** and more.
- ***Wolverine & The X-Men by Jason Aaron Volume 5 TP,*** collecting ***Wolverine & the X-Men #s 19-24.***
- ***X-Factor Volume 20: Hell on Earth War TP,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 250-256.***

Coming Comics—Image in June

Eric Shanower presents another eagerly-awaited issue of ***Age of Bronze.*** In ***AoB #33,*** Diomedes wants to get into Cressida's pants, and Cressida's father is doing everything he can to make that happen. Meanwhile on the Trojan city walls Troilus waits and waits... and waits... until his final battle with Diomedes.

The Angelus and Tom Judge are reunited in ***Artifacts #30*** by *Ron Marz & Marco Turini.* When Tom Judge failed in his efforts to assemble a team of Artifacts bearers and battle Jackie Estacado, Angelus host Finch was left eagerly preparing for her next confrontation with the Darkness bearer. Will her bull-headed obsession to destroy the Darkness distract her from the dangerous task at hand when Tom Judge returns to Finch for a favor?

Jim Zub continues his retitling of ***Skullkickers,*** using currently popular relaunch adjectives, with ***Dark Skullkickers Dark #1.*** And of course, there'll be a variant cover featuring the normal sequential numbering...

ED BRUBAKER SEAN PHILLIPS

Ed Brubaker & Sean Phillips kick off a new arc in ***Fatale #15,*** bringing the series into modern times as Nicolas Lash's research from his prison cell draws out old enemies. And him with nowhere left to run....

Joe Harris & Martin Morazzo launch a new story arc in ***Great Pacific #7.*** Over a year has passed since "The Battle of New Texas" and the settlement has opened a plastic frontier rife with opportunity. But when eco-ter-

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#43
SUPERMAN'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY!
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rorists threaten plans for expansion, a growing cast of patriots, plunderers, monsters and thieves conspire to tear it all down.

In ***Hoax Hunters: Case Files #1*** by *Michael Moreci, Steve Seeley, Ron Saslas, Nick Patarra,* and others, the Hoax Hunters dust off some of their lost cases from the archives.

The schism between the superheroes widens and a plot to unseat the greatest hero of them all emerges in *Mark Millar & Frank Quitely's* ***Jupiter's Legacy #2.***

Greg Rucka makes his Image series debut in June, joining artist *Michael Lark* for ***Lazarus #1.*** In a dystopian near-future, government is a quaint concept, resources are coveted, and possession is 100% of the law. A handful of Families rule, jealously guarding what they have and exploiting the Waste who struggle to survive in their domains. Forever Carlyle defends her family's holdings through deception and force as their protector, their Lazarus. Shot dead defending the family home, Forever's day goes downhill from there....

The bitter, former Witchblade bearer Katarina has transcended the Faerie realm, travelling to Chicago to intercept the fugitive murderer Toio Mulranny. And she's going to get the Witchblade's help to catch him, whether Sara Pezinni wants to or not, in ***Witchblade #167*** by *Tim Seeley & Diego Bernard.*

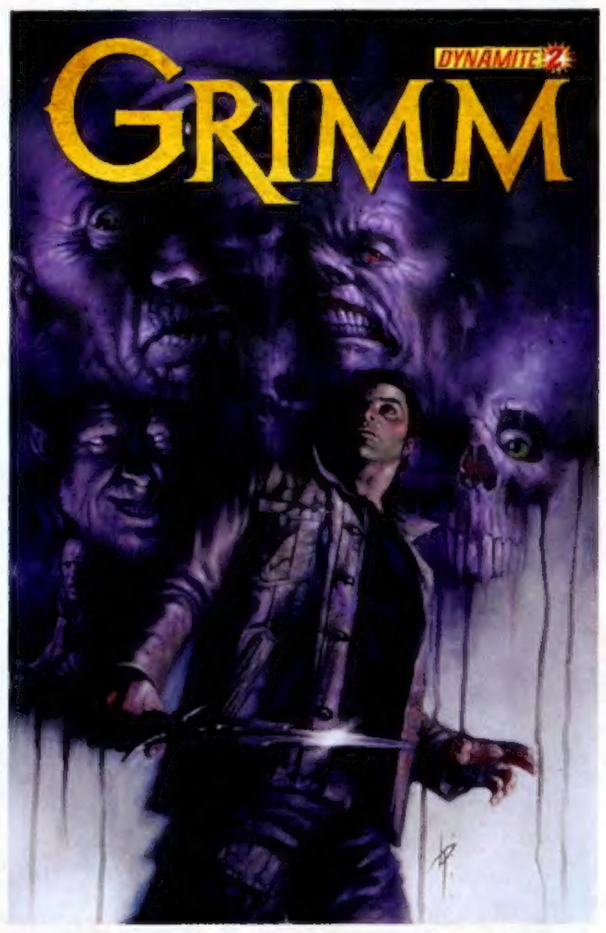
Image collected editions include:

- ***Aphrodite IX: Reloaded Volume 1 HC,*** a limited deluxe hardcover featuring a rescripted, updated version of the original ***Aphrodite IX*** limited series.
- ***Change TP,*** collecting the limited series by *Alex Kot & Morgan Jeske.*
- ***A Distant Soil Volume 1: The Gathering TP,*** featuring a restored, relettered version of Colleen Dorran's first collection, complete with a die-cut cover.
- ***Fatale Volume 3: West of Hell TP,*** collecting ***Fatale #s 11-14.***
- ***Hack/Slash Volume 13: Final TP,*** collecting ***Hack/Slash Vol2 #s 20-25.***
- ***Infinite Vacation HC,*** collecting ***Infinite Vacation #s 1-5.***
- ***Moriarty Deluxe HC,*** collecting ***Moriarty #s 1-9.***
- ***Outlaw Territory Volume 3 TP,*** featuring 35 tales of the Old West by *Joshua Hale Fialkov, Rob Williams, Chris Ryall,* and many others.
- ***Progeny Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Artifacts #s 25-26, Witchblade #s 164-165,*** and ***The Darkness #111.***
- ***Prophet Volume 2: Brothers TP,*** collecting ***Prophet #s 27-32.***
- ***Fatale Volume 3: West of Hell TP,*** collecting ***Fatale #s 11-14.***
- ***Spawn: The Dark Ages Complete Collection HC,*** collecting ***Spawn: The Dark Ages #s 1-28.***
- ***Think Tank Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Think Tank #s 4-8*** and ***Think Tank Military Dossier.***
- ***The Walking Dead Volume 18: What Comes After TP,*** collecting ***The Walking Dead #s 103-108.***
- ***Where Is Jake Ellis? TP,*** collecting ***Where is Jake Ellis? #s 1-5.***
- ***Witch Doctor Volume 2: Mal Practice TP,*** collecting ***Witch Doctor: The Resuscitation*** and ***Mal Practice #s 1-6.***

Coming Comics—Dynamite in June

After a brutal Cylon attack, Apollo and Starbuck are lost in time and space, and the Battlestar Galactica has been erased from existence in ***Battlestar Galactica #2*** by *Dan Abnett, Andy Lanning, & Cezar Razek.* In a reality without the Galactica... the Cylon's rule supreme! How will the legendary Viper pilots get back?

The creators of the Grimm TV series expand its mythology in the in-continuity ***Grimm #2.*** Nick, Hank, and Monroe travel to Europe to help Nick's mother, Kelly, complete a mysterious task, discovering family secrets best kept buried. Meanwhile, a Big Bad hunts them from the shadows, a menacing presence with a scar cleaving its left eye...



Now that the Green Hornet is out of control, only one man stands a chance of bringing him down--his partner, Kato! Witness the confrontation in ***Mark Waid's Green Hornet #4.***

The mysterious master of The Justice Party stands revealed in ***Masks #8,*** the final issue of the *Chris Roberson-Dennis Calero* limited series – but is it too late for the Shadow, the Green Hornet, Zorro, The Spider, Miss Fury, and the other heroes to stop the party's far-reaching plans?

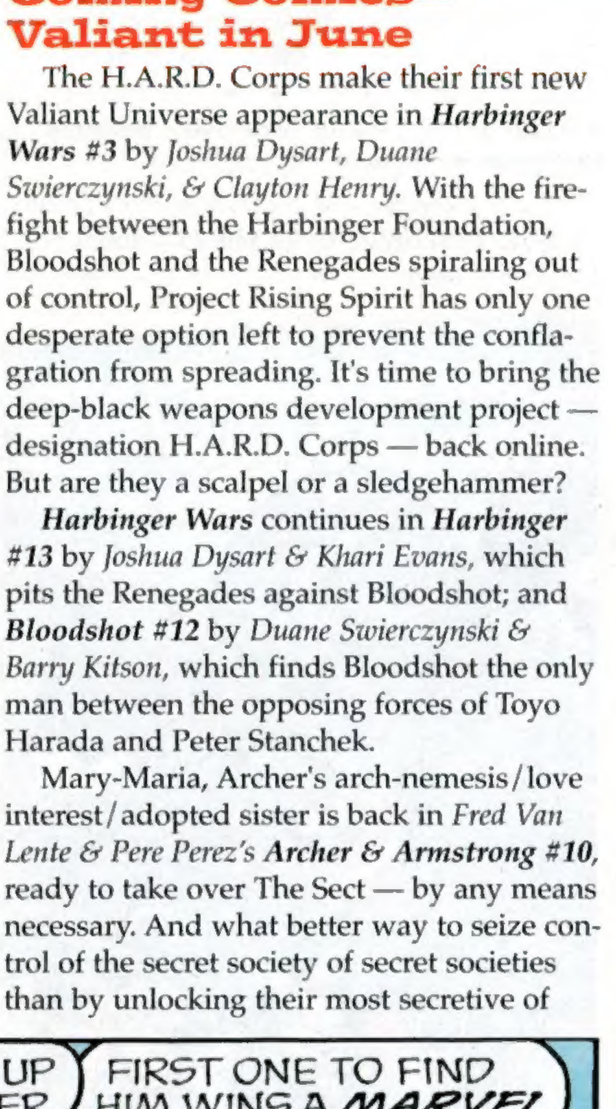
In 1943, Miss Fury is drunk and suicidal, dangling off the edge of Manhattan's highest skyscraper. In 2013, she's racing in a high-speed bike chase through Washington, DC, in pursuit of time-traveling Nazi agents. Which reality is true? Find out in ***Miss Fury #3*** by *Rob Williams & Jack Herbert.*

The Shadow pursues his crusade against crime, and Margo Lane struggles to fit into Lamont Cranston's mysterious world in ***The Shadow: Year One #5*** by *Matt Wagner & Wilfredo Torres.*

Weaver is unique, or so he thinks. Born with an uncanny ability, he can steal other people's skills — their memories, abilities, and expertise — for a limited time. A man with a power like that could change the world; but as a professional gambler, conman, and thief-for-hire, Weaver prefers to look out for number one. That is, until he finds himself drawn into a dangerous game of international intrigue where the rules keep changing, the players are hidden... and the first thing he stands to lose is his life. And maybe, just maybe, he isn't so unique after all... Meet Weaver in ***Uncanny #1*** by *Andy Diggle & Aaron Campbell.*

Dynamite collected volumes for June include:

- ***Damsels Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Damsels #s 1-8.***
- ***Red Sonja: She-Devil With a Sword Volume 11—Echoes of War TP,*** collecting ***Red Sonja #s 61-66.***
- ***Warlord of Mars Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Warlord of Mars #s 19-24.***

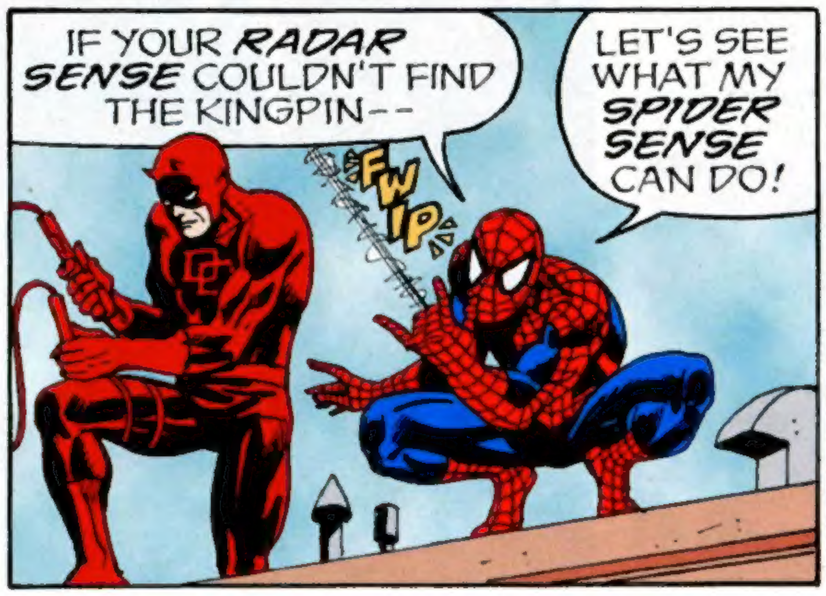


Coming Comics—Valiant in June

The H.A.R.D. Corps make their first new Valiant Universe appearance in ***Harbinger Wars #3*** by *Joshua Dysart, Duane Swierczynski, & Clayton Henry.* With the firefight between the Harbinger Foundation, Bloodshot and the Renegades spiraling out of control, Project Rising Spirit has only one desperate option left to prevent the conflagration from spreading. It's time to bring the deep-black weapons development project — designation H.A.R.D. Corps — back online. But are they a scalpel or a sledgehammer?

Harbinger Wars continues in ***Harbinger #13*** by *Joshua Dysart & Khari Evans,* which pits the Renegades against Bloodshot; and ***Bloodshot #12*** by *Duane Swierczynski & Barry Kitson,* which finds Bloodshot the only man between the opposing forces of Toyo Harada and Peter Stanchek.

Mary-Maria, Archer's arch-nemesis/love interest/adopted sister is back in *Fred Van Lente & Pere Perez's* ***Archer & Armstrong #10,*** ready to take over The Sect — by any means necessary. And what better way to seize control of the secret society of secret societies than by unlocking their most secretive of



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secrets on the secretest place on Earth? And who but the Valiant Universe's premiere team of conspiracy-busters can possibly stop her?

Shadowman faces off against the sinister Samedi to save New Orleans in ***Shadowman #7*** by *Justin Jordan & Patrick Zircher,* but their clash will come at a colossal cost for the rest of the Valiant Universe.

Aric of Dacia came to Loam to exact his revenge against the alien race that captured and tortured his people. In ***X-O Manowar #14*** by *Robert Venditti & Cary Nord,* Aric must make a choice that will affect both him and the future of the Valiant Universe forever as "Planet Death" reaches a startling climax.

Valiant collected edition for June is ***Bloodshot Volume 2: The Rise and the Fall TP,*** collecting ***Bloodshot #s 5-9.***

Coming Comics—Boom in June

Julian Edmond has returned to his luxurious life with Wick, the indescribable individual who claims to be God on Earth. Julian believes...and in order to make sure Wick's will is done, is ready to make sacrifices... Meanwhile, Julian's son, Tristan, learns of a secret that will set him and his father on a collision course in ***Clive Barker's New Genesis #2*** by *Clive Barker, Mark Miller, & Haemi Jang.*

At long last, *Mike Kunkel's* famous all-ages creation returns to comic shops! ***Herobear and the Kid Special #1*** kicks off Kunkel's relaunch of ***Herobear and the Kid*** at Boom. In this standalone tale, it's Picture Day at Tyler's school, and naturally he's forgotten! But before Tyler can pick his good side, he has to sneak out of class with his best friend Herobear to stop an attack on the Simpleton Bridge from the mysterious Von Klon and his SubofDoom! ...and he better not lose his hall pass in the process.

Take the Western trope of a gunslinger wandering the wilderness, stir in SF elements of an otherworld at the crossroads between the past and the future, and then make that gunslinger a bio-surgically modified silverback gorilla. Welcome to the world of ***Sixgun Gorilla*** by *Simon Spurrier & Jeff Stokely.*

As beat cop Leo Winters searches for a way to battle the super-villains who are terrorizing his city, he makes a deal with men who can grant a person superpowers... for the right price. But you don't get to pick the randomly-granted powers. So what does Leo end up with? Find out in ***Suicide Risk #2*** by *Mike Carey & Elena Casagrande.*

Boom collected volumes include:

- ***Adventure Time Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***Adventure Time #s 10-14.***
- ***Extermination Volume 2 TP,*** collecting ***Extermination #s 5-8.***
- ***Freelancers Volume 1 TP,*** collecting ***Freelancers #s 1-6.***

Back to Press

- ***All-New X-Men #8 2nd Printing*** (FEB138321), featuring a variant cover by *Stuart Immonen,* in stores 4/24.
- ***Drew Hayes' Poison Elves #1 2nd Printing,*** in stores 5/1.
- ***Five Ghosts: Haunting of Fabian Gray #1*** (FEB138330), in stores 4/17.
- ***Powers: Bureau #1 2nd Printing*** (FEB138322), featuring a variant cover by *Michael Avon Oeming,* in stores 4/24.
- ***Powers: Bureau #2 2nd Printing*** (FEB138323), featuring a variant cover by *Michael Avon Oeming,* in stores 4/24.
- ***Superior Spider-Man #5 2nd Printing*** (FEB138324), featuring a variant cover by *Giuseppe Camuncoli,* in stores 4/24.
- ***Thor, God of Thunder #5 2nd Printing*** (FEB138325), featuring a variant cover by *Esad Ribic,* in stores 4/24.
- ***Uncanny X-Men #3 2nd Printing*** (FEB138326), featuring a variant cover by *Chris Bachalo,* in stores 4/24.
- ***X-O Manowar #10 2nd Printing*** (FEB138333), in stores 4/17.

CSNsights

Review by Cliff Biggers

Super Boys: The Amazing Adventures of Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster—The Creators of Superman by *Brad Ricca*
(St. Martin's Press, $27.99)

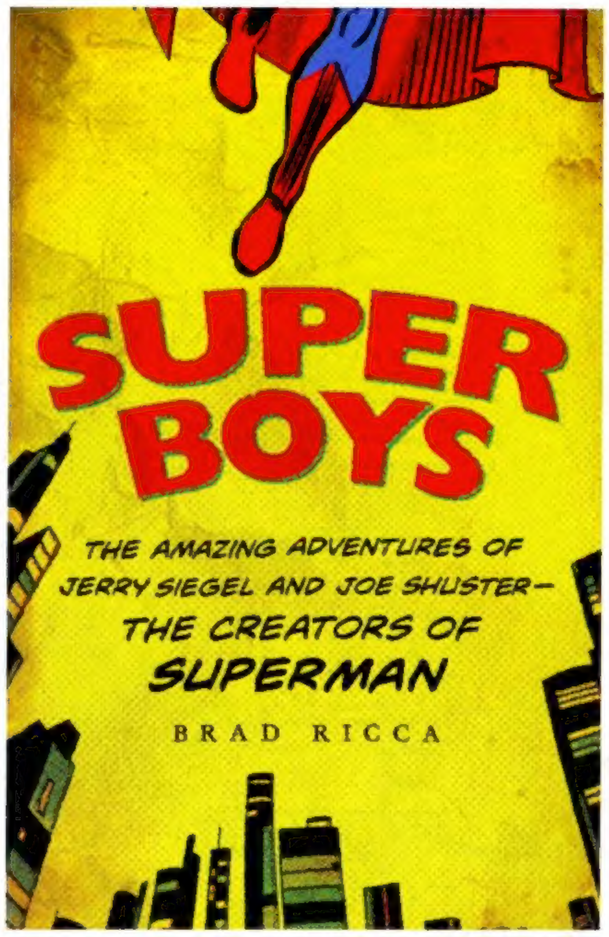
Comics creators have been the subject of all too few biographies. Of those biographies that have been written, most are little more than chronicles of the writer or artist's professional accomplishments. That's not the case with ***Super Boys;*** *Brad Ricca* presents readers with a portrait of the people behind the greatest superhero icon the medium has ever known.

From their early days as high school students and avid science fiction readers through their glory days as the most famous creators in comics to their years in virtual creative exile to the final reconciliations and recognitions that left them happy in their final years, ***Super Boys*** is the story of two men who shared a dream that ultimately got away from them.

What makes ***Super Boys*** distinctive is the passion that Ricca brings to the book. He obviously cares for the two men whose lives he researched with such dedication—in fact, he cares intensely. He wants to know not just what they did, but how they felt, how their shaped by their creation. He wants to know about their personal successes and failures as well—and he shares all of that with his readers with the deft skill of a novelist bringing characters to life on the page.

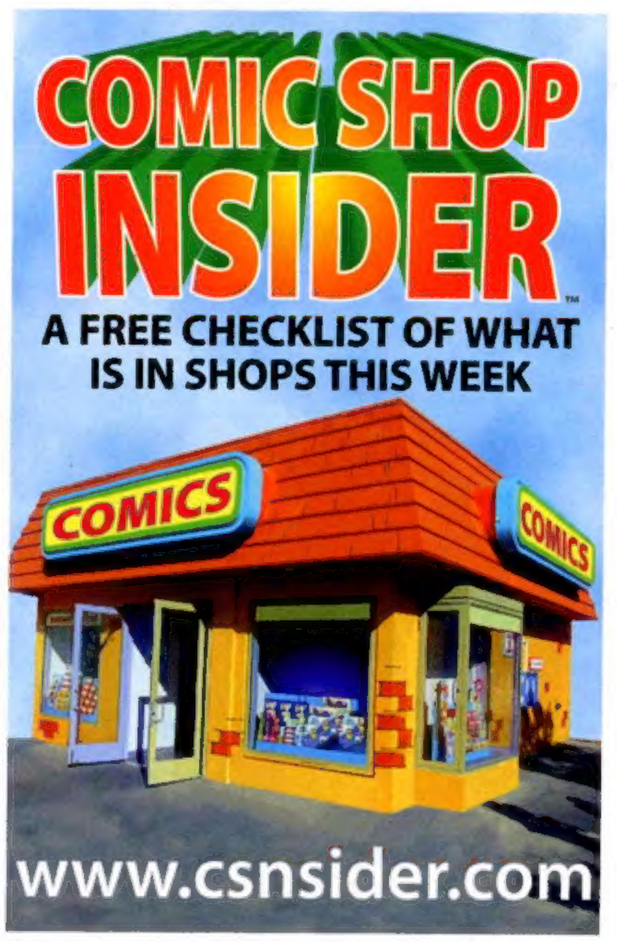
Along the way, Ricca makes some fascinating discoveries: *Jerry Siegel's* last unpublished story, buried in editor *Julius Schwartz's* desk; the truth about the death of *Michel Siegel,* Jerry's father; the origins of Lois Lane's name.

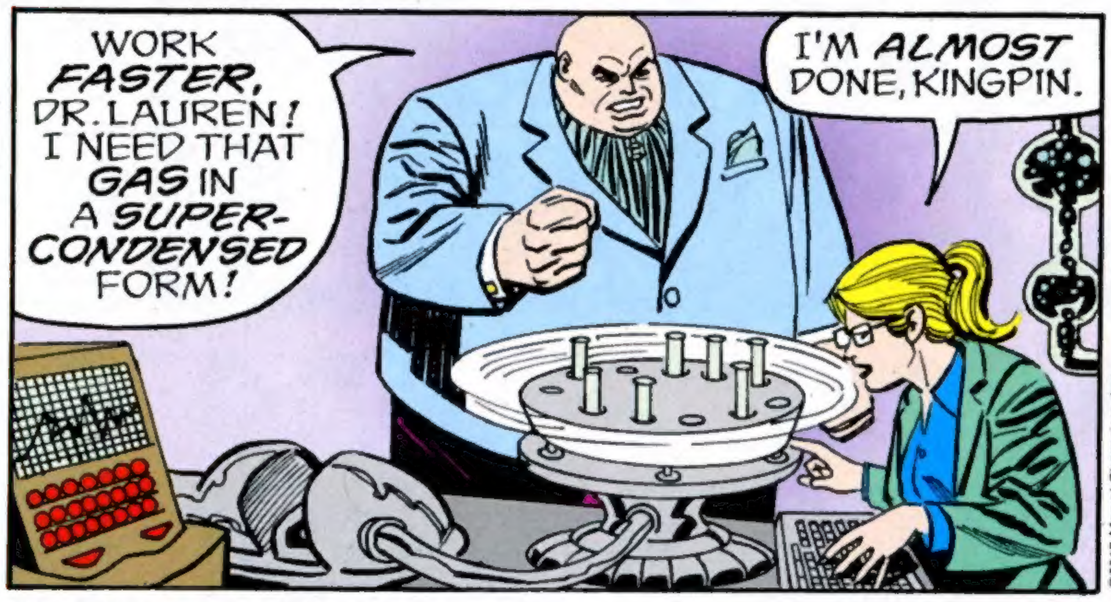
But the most memorable aspect of ***Super Boys*** is not the discoveries, but the way Ricca brings these two men to life. We share in their exuberance as Superman is accepted,

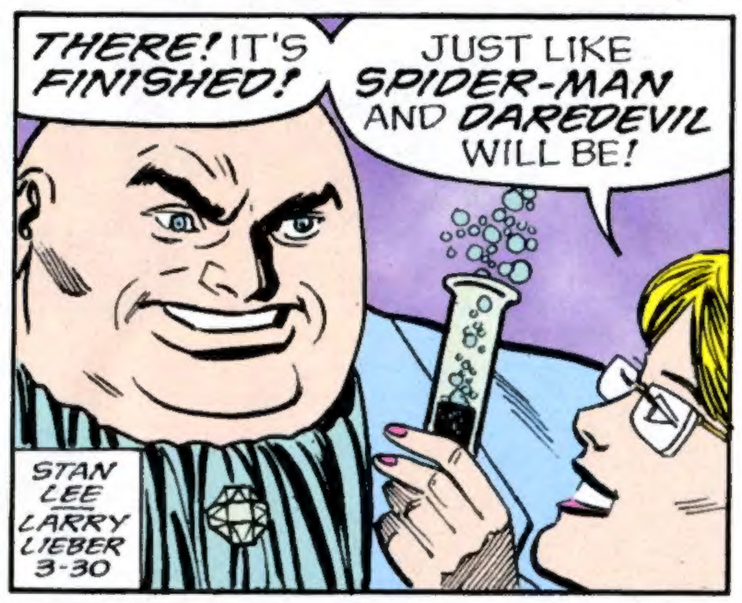


we witness their frustration and anger as the character slips away from them; we understand the acceptance and satisfaction that they found in their final years, as well as the creative sparks that never burned out.

Super Boys treats its subjects with the sort of respect and insightful analysis that is usually reserved for the Picassos and Hemingways and Fitzgeralds of the world; it's fitting that Siegel and Shuster should receive such treatment.







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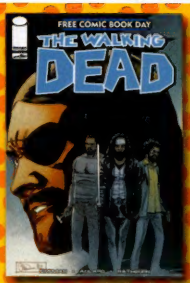

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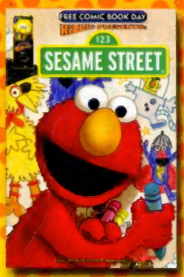

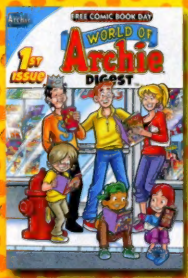

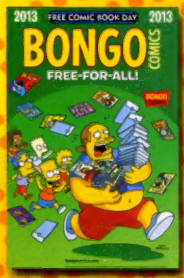

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